

**STATE OF NEW YORK**  
**LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY**  
**BUFFALO, N.Y., JANUARY 19TH, 2023 A.D.**

**Honoring WNY Snowmobile Club of Eden Trail Blazers  
for Their Heroic Efforts During the Buffalo Blizzard 2022**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT** at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County held in the Old County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023 A.D., a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:

**WHEREAS**, the Erie County Legislature is pleased to honor individuals and institutions in our community who enhance the quality of life for their family, friends, and neighbors through their conscientious and selfless service; and

**WHEREAS**, a deadly winter storm unleashed a fierce blizzard that swept through Erie County over Christmas weekend, burying the City of Buffalo and surrounding suburbs in over fifty-two inches of snow, leaving roadways impassable, stranding people in cars with dwindling gas tanks, forcing hundreds of vehicles to be abandoned on roads and highways, and tragically resulting in the loss of more than forty lives; and

**WHEREAS**, when the dangerous storm conditions made it impossible for emergency vehicles to respond and caused as much as two-thirds of the snow-clearing equipment to be unavailable for service at the height of the storm, the **WNY Federation of Snowmobile Clubs** sprang into action; and

**WHEREAS**, **MATT SKUSE**, president of the **Eden Trail Blazers** played an integral role in the coordination of all ten **WNY Federation of Snowmobile Clubs** allocating and distributing assets throughout the region and working alongside his fellow **Eden Trail Blazers** to distribute meals to volunteers, emergency responders and to those shut in their homes, providing both subsistence and hope in the face of howling snow, tropical storm force winds, and freezing temperatures; and

**WHEREAS**, in spite of the severe challenges and extreme conditions presented by this deadly blizzard, the **Eden Trail Blazers** members placed themselves in harm's way, braved whiteout conditions and subzero windchills and performed heroically to rescue people who were in great danger during the storm.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Erie County Legislature pauses in its deliberations to honor and express their endless gratitude to the **Eden Trail Blazers**, who risked their lives to an extraordinary degree saving or attempting to save the lives of others in this once in a generational storm.

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**MINORITY LEADER JOHN J. MILLS**  
Erie County Legislator – 11<sup>th</sup> District